

PROBE

BY JAMES LEE

WASHINGTON- NOV. 26 --(INS)-- NAVY SATELLITE CHIEF JOHN P. HAGEN SAID TODAY MONEY LIMITATIONS AND EMPHASIS ON BALLISTIC MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PREVENTED THE U.S. FROM LAUNCHING AN ARTIFICIAL MOON BEFORE RUSSIA ORBITTED ITS SPUTNIKS.

HAGEN ALSO TOLD THE SENATE PREPAREDNESS SUBCOMMITTEE THAT BEGINNING NEXT MONTH THE U.S. WILL LAUNCH A SERIES OF THREE TEST SATELLITES TO BE FOLLOWED IN MARCH BY A "FULL-SCALE" OUTER-SPACE VEHICLE CRAMMED WITH ELECTRONIC RECORDING DEVICES.

MEANWHILE- GEN. JAMES H. DOOLITTLE- AIR FORCE PIONEER- WORLD WAR II HERO AND AERONAUTICAL SCIENTIST- TESTIFIED THAT:

-- RUSSIA HOLDS A MISSILE LEAD OVER THE U.S. IN SOME RESPECTS BECAUSE OF "HARDER WORK AND GREATER SACRIFICES."

-- AMERICA IS STILL MILITARILY STRONGER THAN THE SOVIETS BUT RUSSIAN PROGRESS IN WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT IS FASTER AND "UNLESS WE FORGE AHEAD AT FULL SPEED SHE WILL OVERTAKE US."

-- POWERS OF THE U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED BECAUSE IN THE EVENT OF A MISSILE WARFARE EMERGENCY "IT IS HIGHLY POSSIBLE A RAPID DECISION WILL BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SURVIVAL AND NO SURVIVAL."

-- "THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MUST DEVELOP A SENSE OF URGENCY. THEY MUST BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE AND TO PRODUCE MORE ... RUSSIA WON'T LET US BALANCE OUR BUDGET- REDUCE EXPENDITURES- OR CUT TAXES."

HAGEN, CIVILIAN BOSS OF THE NAVY'S VANGUARD PROJECT WHICH IS HANDLING THE EARTH SATELLITE PROGRAM, AND DOOLITTLE, NOW AN OIL COMPANY EXECUTIVE, TESTIFIED IN OPEN SESSION ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S INQUIRY INTO U.S. SPACE-VEHICLE EFFORTS.

THE SENATORS ARRANGED TO HEAR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DIRECTOR ALLEN W. DULLES IN CLOSED SESSION.

DOOLITTLE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES UNDERESTIMATED THE SCOPE OF RUSSIA'S SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS BUT ADDED: "FREQUENTLY THOSE WHO INTERPRETED INTELLIGENCE HAVE UNDERESTIMATED."

THE RETIRED AIR FORCE GENERAL, A WARTIME "COMEBACK" EXPERT WHO ENGINEERED THE MORALE-BOOSTING BOMBER RAID ON TOKYO IN 1942, SAID HE BELIEVED THE U.S. STRATEGIC AIR FORCE COULD NOW HIT A GOOD PERCENTAGE OF RUSSIAN TARGETS DESPITE SOVIET CONCENTRATION ON AIR DEFENSE.

DOOLITTLE CRITICIZED DELAY IN DECIDING ON WHETHER THE AIR FORCE INTERMEDIATE RANGE MISSILE THOR OR THE ARMY JUPITER SHOULD BE PUT INTO MASS PRODUCTION. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE DECISION WOULD BE MADE ABOUT JAN. 1- BUT THAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE "A LONG TIME AGO."

THE VETERAN AIRMAN ADDED: "ONE OF OUR SHORTCOMINGS IS THE LACK OF PROMPT DECISION ON IMPORTANT THINGS. IT IS DUE TO OUR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AMONG MILITARY PEOPLE."

DOOLITTLE TOLD THE SENATORS THAT BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH THE U.S. DRIVE TO FORGE AHEAD OF THE SOVIETS IN THE RACE TO CONQUER OUTER SPACE.

HE AGREED WITH SEN. JOHN C. STENNIS (D) MISS.- THAT "ONE SINGLE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL" SHOULD BE EMPOWERED TO "PUSH TO THE UTMOST OUR MISSILES PROGRAM-" WITH AUTHORITY TO OVERRIDE- IF NECESSARY- THE POSITIONS OF THE BUDGET BUREAU AND THE PENTAGON.

HAGEN TESTIFIED THAT HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR FINANCIAL AND PRIORITY RESTRICTIONS THE U.S. WOULD HAVE HAD "A GOOD CHANCE" TO LAUNCH ITS FIRST SATELLITE BEFORE RUSSIA'S SPUTNIK I WAS FIRED NEARLY TWO MONTHS AGO.

THE NOTED ASTRONOMER SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE THAT THE VANGUARD PROJECT "MUST NEVER INTERFERE WITH THE INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE."

HAGEN EXHIBITED AN EXACT MODEL OF THE SIX-INCH- FOUR-POUND TEST SATELLITE TO BE FIRED NEXT MONTH -- ON DEC. 3 -- ACCORDING TO PENTAGON SOURCES.

HE SAID THAT ALL PRELIMINARY TESTS IN THE SATELLITE PROGRAM "HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL THEY HAVE GIVEN US CONFIDENCE THAT WE ARE GOING ALONG SUCCESSFULLY WITH A THREE-STAGE VEHICLE..."

HAGEN SAID VANGUARD PERSONNEL HAVE HAD "A SENSE OF URGENCY" ABOUT THE PROGRAM BUT